

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Laurent MEIJER *et al.*

Title: **MEANS FOR INDUCING DIFFERENTIATION OF  
SUPERNUMERARY HAIR CELLS AND DEITER'S CELLS  
IN THE DEVELOPING ORGAN OF CORTI**

Appl. No.: 10/539,407

International Filing Date: 12/17/2003

Examiner: Laura Schuberg

Art Unit: 1657

Confirmation Number: 4591

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated January 5, 2007, concerning the above-referenced patent application. By virtue of the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time and payment of the prescribed fees, the response is timely filed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.

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